

# VIETNAM COURIER

INFORMATION WEEKLY—E.O.: 46 TRAN HUNG DAO STREET, HANOI—DRVN

## DRVN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT on US Air Attacks against North Viet Nam

**O**n November 21, 1970, the US imperialists sent many flights of aircraft to violate the air space over Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Ha Tay and Hoa Binh provinces, to attack a number of densely populated areas, making a number of civilian casualties, and to fire rockets on the periphery of Hanoi. A total of 11 pilots captured in North Viet Nam was also hit; a number of pilots detained there were wounded.

On the same day, the US imperialists also launched air attacks on many densely populated areas in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces.

The armed forces and the people of the above areas put up a resolute and valiant fight, shooting down six US planes and damaging many others.

These are extremely serious war acts of the US imperialists crudely encroaching on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, flagrant violations of the US pledge to stop completely its bombing of North Viet Nam, and posing a grave threat to the work of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. This is an impudent challenge to peace- and justice-loving public opinion in the world including American opinion.

As is known to everybody, after it had to stop unconditionally the bombardment of the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the US Government has continued sending air and naval craft to violate the air space and territorial waters of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and to engage in spying activities, provocations and attacks on many populated areas in North Viet Nam. In early November 1970, the US imperialists launched large-scale air strikes on a number of densely populated areas in Nghe An and Quang Binh provinces. Recently, after the downing of a US plane by the armed forces and people of the North, the Nixon Administration has repeatedly harped on the fancy story of an "understanding" between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the United States on US reconnaissance

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7th Year

Stages and Problems  
of Industrialization  
in the DRVN

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## THE NAM KY UPRISING 30 YEARS AGO

(November 23, 1940)

On Nov. 23, 1940, in Nam Ky (South Viet Nam) erupted an armed uprising. On the occasion of its 30th anniversary, our correspondent interviewed Mme NGUYEN THI THAP, member of the CC of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, President of the Viet Nam Women's Union, and one of those who took a direct part in it. Following are the questions and answers.

**QUESTION 1:** You took part in the Nam Ky uprising. Would you please tell us about the situation at that time, and the cause of the rebellion?

**ANSWER:** The Nam Ky uprising which broke out 30 years ago, has left deep imprints in the South Vietnamese people. Its outbreak was not by a mere accident.

Since the French colonialists imposed their domination on Viet Nam, the people had not ceased rising for self-liberation. As Nam Bo<sup>\*</sup> was conquered by the French aggressors nearly two decades earlier than Bao Bo<sup>\*</sup> and Trung Bo,<sup>\*</sup> our Southern people were the first to resist the French. Truong Cong Dinh, Nguyen Trung Truc and Nguyen Huu Huan—leaders of the anti-French movement in Nam Ky prior to the coming into existence of the Communist Party—had many other patriots had sacrificed their lives for the Fatherland.

Parallel with French colonial exploitation, the Viet Nam working class was born first in Nam Bo and the workers movement also first emerged there. From 1930, under the banner of the Indochinese Communist Party, the movement increased in strength and scope. At the time of the founding of the anti-fascist Democratic Front (1936-1937), Nam Bo also took the lead in the national effort.

World War II broke out. The French colonialists ruthlessly suppressed our people's resistance. They stepped up military draft to supply manpower for the war against Germany and secure cannon-fodder for their confrontation with Siam (Thailand) in Western Cambodia. In June 1940, France was occupied by Nazi Germany. In September 1940, in Indochina, the French were defeated by

Japanese fascists in Lang Son, and sold out Indochina to Japan. These developments greatly stimulated the anti-colonialist feeling among the Nam Bo people. In face of the danger of a collision between the French and the Japanese and taking advantage of the French collapse, we staged a general insurrection in an attempt to wrest back power. This was the direct cause leading to the Nam Ky uprising.

The situation was propitious. Workers and peasants firmly decided their firm resolve. Many patriotic figures of the middle class and a section of the functionaries in the French colonial administration took sides with the revolution. Vietnamese soldiers in the French army refused to go to the front. Their anti-war movement gained momentum. The popular masses were strongly for the uprising and seizure of power.

I would like to lay emphasis on the deep system of national and class oppression of the French colonialists and the reactionary feudal landlords and comprador bourgeoisie, and the centuries-old insurrectionary spirit and patriotic tradition of the Nam Bo people in particular and the Vietnamese people in general. These were just the factors which led to the glorious success of the August 1945 Revolution and have been motivating the long and valiant effort of the Nam Bo people for the past 30 years. In our country, though long as contradictions still exist between our nation and aggressive imperialism, revolutionary action and armed uprising remain the inevitable course of action.

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\* Present appellations of Cochinchina, Tonkin and Annam.

## In DRVN

### BUMPER SUMMER-AUTUMN RICE CROP IN MANY PROVINCES

(See article on page 2)

\*

In the threshing-yard of Chi Chi agricultural co-operative (Ha Tay province).



## Bumper Summer-Autumn Rice Crop in Many DRVN Provinces

THE Summer-Autumn rice harvest has been in full swing since early November. Elaborate preparations made since long have helped speed up the harvest. Such rice-growing provinces as Thai-Binh, Nam Ha, Hai Hung, Thanh Hoa, have brought in a heavy crop.

Great efforts have been made by all to get the work done quickly.

Many co-operatives have adopted new varieties of high-yield rice and fully applied new combined farming techniques. This year the irrigation and manuring have been carried out most adequately. The management of manpower has been improved; the labour norms set in clearer and more concise terms.

During the harvest, tens of thousands of infant classes and kindergartens have opened to free female labour force. To save time for the farmers, foodstuffs have been made directly available to production brigades. In some localities meals are served to the harvester in the fields which has made it possible for them to replenish their strength without leaving their work site.

## DRVN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT...

(Continued from page 1)  
ights over North Viet Nam"; at the same time, it also put forward "bellicose and imperialist" talks to the effect that the United States continues spying flights over North Viet Nam "to protect the lives of our servicemen," that it is "ready to take appropriate actions in response," that it is "ready to take further defensive measures" and that "gangsteristic talks intended to conceal the design of pursuing and intensifying war acts against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam."

The recent war acts of the US imperialists against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam have further exposed them as extremely bellicose and aggressive. Obviously, they have adopted 5-point "peace initiative" of the Nixon Administration is aimed solely at deceiving world and American public opinion, and furthering the US imperialists' scheme to prolong and expand the war of aggression in Indochina.

The Government of the Democratic Republic

of Viet Nam serves a stern warning with regard to the above war acts of the US imperialists; it firmly demands that the US Government completely stop all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The US Government must bear full responsibility for all consequences arising from its adventurous acts.

The Vietnamese people are resolved to punish any encroachment of the US imperialists on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to smash all other adventurous acts on their part. No matter what acts they may attempt to spread, the US imperialists can shake the iron determination of the Vietnamese people to persevere in, and step up, the fight against US aggression to liberate the South, defend the North, and to proceed to the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

Hanoi, November 21, 1970

## DRVN

### News in Brief

At the invitation of the DRVN government, an economic delegation of the Romanian Socialist Republic, headed by Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Presidium of the CC of the Romanian Communist Party, and Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Hanoi on November 15.

An agreement on Bulgarian economic and military aid to Viet Nam for 1971 was signed on November 12 in Hanoi between the delegations of both countries.

At the invitation of the Ceylonese Peace Council and the Ceylon-Viet Nam Solidarity Committee, a delegation of the Viet Nam Peace Committee headed by Tran Dang Khoa, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the DRVN National Assembly, paid a friendship visit to Ceylon from Nov. 2 to 8.

A West-German people's delegation arrived in Hanoi on a friendship visit to the DRVN. It included among others Mme Sybille Weber, permanent member of the "Hilfsaktion" (Assistance) of the German Association and Dr. Georg Karl Specht, Director of the Section of Assistance to Victims of Accidents of the Association of Catholics of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Implementing the cultural co-operation program between the DRVN and Soviet Union, a delegation of the Soviet Writers' Association led by the well-known poet Evgenii Dolmatovskii has arrived in Viet Nam on a friendship visit.

92nd Plenary Session of Paris Conference  
on Viet Nam (Nov. 19, 1970)

### Mr XUAN THUY Scores Prolongation and Intensification of the US War in Indochina

Mr Xuan Thuy, chief of the DRVN government delegation, once more scored the attempt of the Nixon administration to induce the American people into believing that it was ready to put an end to the war in Viet Nam and bring home all US troops. As a matter of fact the war was further intensified and US military occupation prolonged.

He brushed aside Molvin Laird's threat after the North Vietnamese AA defence's shooting down of an RF-4, and American military circles' bluster on continued reconnaissance flights over the DRVN.

The DRVN representative also denounced the extension of the US air blockade to Laos and large-scale military operations in Cambodia conducted by the Saigon and Phnom Penh puppets as well as American bombings of the Khmer territory.

He pressed for a serious US response to the RSVN PRG's Sept. 17, 1970 peace proposals.

## The Nam Ky Uprising...

(Continued from page 1)

QUESTION 2: Please tell us about the course of events during the uprising and its achievements.

ANSWER: In March 1940 the Nam Ky Committee of the Indochinese CP worked out a plan for the preparation of the uprising. In July 1940, its Standing Committee held an enlarged session to review the situation and decided to launch the insurrection.

From Nov. 22 to Nov. 30, 1940, the insurrection broke out in the provinces of Gia Dinh, My Tho, Cho Lon, Tan An, Can Tho, Vinh Long. Later, it spread to all other provinces of Nam Bo with the end of Dec. 1940.

In Gia Dinh and Can Tho districts (My Tho) and in the districts of Due Hoc, Hoc Mon, Thu Thua, Tan Uyen, Tan Binh, Can Long, etc. In Saigon, as its plan had leaked out, the French colonialists resorted to extensive terror and only a section of the armymen fought.

Elsewhere, there was a bustling activity in preparation for the action. Revolutionary zeal was great among the masses.

At that time I was engaged in activities in My Tho. The province where I was born developed rapidly. I still remember that the directives for the uprising from the Nam Ky Party Committee reached us when we were in the jungle, as there was terror everywhere. It was raining hard and we were having our meal. We read the instructions with excitement and enthusiasm. It came as a shower at a time of drought. The decision to launch the uprising did not meet the aspiration of the people who were longing for their liberation.

For the oppressed masses, the order to take to the streets acted like a detonator. Everybody old and young, men and women, boys and girls did their farm work by day and underwent combat training by night. In the jungle, smith shops and sewing machine went into operation, making arms, flags, and clothes for the insurgent troops. People brought food, gunpowder and other supplies to the jungle as their contributions to the revolution.

From Dec. 31, 1940 onward, the enemy carried out savage repression; in many localities the people resisted them courageously. The revolutionary forces went underground.

QUESTION 3: How do you account for the significance and influence of the uprising as far as the next step of the revolution and the present anti-US fight for national salvation are concerned?

ANSWER: The Nam Ky uprising was unsuccessful because the objective conditions were not ripe. Yet it had an important significance and a profound influence on the struggle of the South Vietnamese people over the past 30 years. Just as the Nghi Tinh uprising (1940-1943) and the Bao Son uprising (Sept. 1940), the Nam Ky Insurrection was a general rehearsal by our people of the August Revolution (1945). From this abortive attempt, our people could draw many precious lessons for their revolutionary effort in the following years.

Although it was drowned in a bloodbath, with many villages bombed or burnt to the ground, tens of thousands of people arrested and jailed, and thousands of others linked together by wire driven through the palms of their hands and then flung in groups into the sea, yet it had aroused a sense of patriotism in millions of South Vietnamese. A compelling example of staunchness and dauntlessness was set by the people. A part of the land and

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SEPT. 2, 1945 SEPT. 2, 1970

## The D.R.V.N.

is  
**25 years Old**

### I - THE GREAT LANDMARKS

LIKE all colonized countries, Viet Nam's industry was, after recovering her independence, a lop-sided and limping one completely dependent on the former metropolitan economy. In 1939, the peak year under the colonial regime, there were in Viet Nam 85,000 industrial workers, including 50,000 miners. The value of industrial production was 10 per cent of the industrial and agricultural production put together.

The first resistance was well nigh annihilated that already rickety industry. There were virtually no qualified personnel.

Only after three years of strenuous efforts (from 1955 to 1957) was industrial production restored to its 1939 level (1959 : 100):



The electric power distribution network is widening.

Year	Total output	Industry proper	Small industry and handicrafts
1955	36.7	23.8	46.3
1957	98.8	94.7	102.3

From 1958 onwards, all private capitalist enterprises were redefined from their owners and transformed into joint enterprises with the participation of the state. They were small enterprises, mostly in agriculture and handicrafts, an obsolete equipment for the Vietnamese bourgeoisie was constantly banished by the colonial administration. In handicrafts, the co-operatives gradually replaced private enterprises.

With the completion of agricultural co-operation, towards the end of 1960, the transformation of the co-operatives capitalist enterprises, the co-operatives and handicraftsmen, the first economic structures of socialism have taken shape. Thus the stage of industrial development began and the State sector has been expanded at a quick tempo, laying the initial material and technical foundations of socialism.

Percentage of each sector in the total value of industrial and handicraft output

Item	1955	1960	1964
- State sector	10.8	52.4	64.5
- Joint enterprises	-	4.8	5.7
- Handicraft co-operatives	-	37.7	25.4
- Individual artisans	22.5	4.7	4.4
- Private capitalists	16.7	0.4	-
100	100	100	100

The development of industry started in the restoration period (1955-1957) was carried on:

(1957 : 100)

Year	Total value of industry output	Industry proper	Small industry and handicrafts
1960	179.5	255.6	127.6
1965	339.7	611.5	155.2

At the end of the first 5-year plan (1961-1965) a modern industry waslicked into shape with the creation of fundamental branches turning out items non-existent in the past. The industrial structure underwent a far-reaching change. There were such developing sectors as the

## STAGES AND PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

NGUYEN XUAN LAI

Industrial production increased by 20.5 per cent per year in the period between 1958 and 1960 and by 13 per cent during the 5-year plan 1961-1965.

At the end of 1963, the value of industrial and handicrafts output was 50 per cent higher than that of industrial and agricultural production put together.

Industry began to play its leading role in the national economy: basic problems began to be resolved adequately.

The fulfillment of the first 5-year plan (1961-1965) was marked by the first US bombardments. North Viet Nam's industry had to be readjusted: during 4 years it was subjected to violent attack by US planes. With the cessation of US bombing a new situation emerged.

Ratio of industry in total investments in capital construction in the national economy:

1955 - 1957	30%
1958 - 1960	45%
1961 - 1965	48%

### II - ROLE OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

AS an under-developed country which wants to bypass the stage of capitalist development, North Viet Nam would not be able to build socialism without solid material and technical foundations. The existence of a relatively comprehensive heavy industry becomes an objective necessity.

That is why the State has made important investments in this field. The share of heavy industry in the total industrial investment is:

- Metallurgy	30% of total
- Electricity	20%
- Chemicals	12%
- Coal	10%
- Engineering	9%
- Building materials	7%

In 1965, the ratio of heavy industry to agriculture was 11.5 per cent of the total value of agricultural and industrial output (as against 1 per cent in 1955) and 20 per cent of the value of industrial and handicraft output.

Production in Group A (capital goods) has known a rapid growth: 38 per cent per year on the average against 10 per cent for Group B (consumer goods).

With a yearly increase of 50 per cent, mechanical engineering accounted in 1965 for 24 per cent of the output value of heavy industry as against 3 per cent in 1958, hence its important role in the raising of

(Continued page 7)



At a small engineering workshop in an agricultural co-operative.

# Economic and Financial Situation in Saigon

THE devaluation and "emergency measures" decided by the Saigon authorities have thrown bright light on the economy of men-had South Viet Nam. In its June 4, 1970 issue, the Saigon magazine

## I - DECLINE OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION. ABERANT DIVISION OF MANPOWER

**A**GRICULTURE, main source of income practised by 80 per cent of the population, has collapsed as a result of the shrinking acreage available and the heavy workload by the year. Formerly rice exporter, South Viet Nam is now forced to import it. From 80,000 tons, the export of raw rubber has dropped to 25,000 tons per year. Before the war, sugar was produced in adequate quantities for home-consumption; at present 200,000 tons of it has to be imported yearly as its local production exceeds hardly 25,000 tons (1).

Forest resources have been systematically destroyed. In its Jan. 22, 1970 issue, *Chau Hung Kinh Te* complained that immense woody areas had been heavily deforested "due to the effects of explosive bombs, napalm and defoliant." Forest exploitation has been brought to a standstill, as "destruction continues with formidable means."

Fishing which yielded about one million tons of fish in 1964 is impeded by continual military operations.

This decline of agriculture continues its course unchecked. *The New Yorker* gave a glimpse of it when writing that South Viet Nam was a State which "the U.S. wants to save, but has been destroyed" due to its military with their biological war waged in the form of an increasing spraying of over 30,000 tons of toxic chemicals over the countryside and villages. It is estimated that 14.5 per cent provokes the latenterization of the soil and birth of monstrosities and many other curses for the people. The area affected by chemical spraying, which touched off a violent protest from American scientists, hit 12,500,000 acres in 1968 and probably over one million in 1969. Moreover, the quantity of bombs released on South Viet Nam was 5,155,700 tons from January 1, 1968 to May 1969, "paper said."

Industry continues to be in the doldrums. The An Hoa - Nong Son

## II - CONSTANT AND INCREASING DEFICIT OF TRADE BALANCE

**S**AIGON foreign trade is characterized by the following:

"1. Collapse of exports in face of imports. The total value of the export quota which represented 26 per cent of imports before 1960, dropped to 20 per cent during the 'special war' to reach the lowest percentages since 1965: 1.8 in 1968

and 1.5 in 1969. The deficit is 7.5 million dollars a year.

2. Almost all imports (85 per cent) are of consumer goods; equipment represents 15 per cent only and consists essentially of spare parts.

American goods account for half

the total imports and include chiefly motor-cars, milk, cotton goods, air conditioners, refrigerators.

US imports grow unceasingly together with Japanese goods to the detriment of French goods. Since 1955 to 1969, American goods rose by 550 per cent, making up 63 per cent of the total of foreign wares bought by Saigon as against 30-35 per cent for Japanese and 1-5 per cent for French goods.

3. Rice and rubber were, before the war, main source of foreign currencies. However, as it has been said, Saigon imports now a growing quantity of rice (half a million tons per year), dearth being prevalent in areas under its control.

The exportation of rubber went

down to 25,000 tons in 1969 while it still remains the greatest hard currency earner.

4. Raw materials and farm products make up 98 per cent of the total value of exports.

The official exchange rate is no longer favourable. The dollar which fetched in 1955 1,000 market 400 piastres or more is pegged at 188 piastres. "Vietnamization" has suppressed the expenses of the withdrawn contingents. The reserves of 336 million dollars in 1967 are reduced to 180 million in 1969, or 100 million below the safety level.

The overseas investments of 337 million piastres in 1964, fell in 1965 to 17 million (2), despite the facilities granted.

## III - THE PIASTRE, A GHOST OF A CURRENCY

**T**HE collapse of production and deficit of foreign trade has led to the depreciation of the currency, aggravated by a galloping inflation. Subjected to successive devaluations, the piastre has lost 99 per cent of its pre-war value

According to official data, taking 100 as 1959 index, the general index of the workers' life, including the minimum wage, net, was 500 in 1960 and 600 in May 1970. The prices of foodstuffs have increased by 700 per cent.

The irresistible inflation has generated a steep price rise. A tail of gold was worth 100 piastres in 1953 but 20,000 in 1968 only. It could buy 300 kilograms of fish or 450 kilograms of vegetables in 1953 respectively 53 and 46 in 1969. A Saigon paper has uttered the following tongue-in-cheek remark:

"The Vietnamese people probably ignore astronomy and geometry but they can quickly calculate that with 5 piastres there could buy a bottle of beer and ice while today they must have eight 5 dong notes

## IV - ENORMOUS BUDGETARY DEFICIT

**T**HE Saigon budget swollen by the war, constantly shows a deficit. According to official figures (not from reliable) that deficit was 92,500 million dollars in 1970, or 65,000 million if US aid is taken into consideration.

The state expenditure goes up to 121,500 million out of a total of 190,500 million, or nearly two-thirds. The taxes (90,000 million) amount to nine-tenths of the revenue (\$8,000 million).

The only means to fill this gap is to issue more banknotes, the tax-payers being already fleeced.

Non-military expenditure includes the building of ports, airfields, roads and barracks, which means that almost all the credits are spent on war.

Instead of cutting down the deficit, the direct intervention of GIs has worsened it, which trebled from 1965 to 1970.

popular masses. But economic slumps undermine even the foundation which Washington intends to lay.

HUYNH HA

(1) *Kinh Te Tai Chinh* (Economy and Finances) Review, No 637, Jan. 16, 1970.  
 (2) *Chau Hung Kinh Te*, April 9, 1970.  
 (3) *Kinh Te Tai Chinh*, Feb. 13, 1970.



Saigon war residuals demonstrating against the Saigon administration

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## THIRD BLUNDER: THE PHNOM PENH COUP D'ETAT

**S**INCE 1954, under Norodom Sihanouk, independent and neutral Cambodia had consistently rejected the protection of SEATO, i. e. of the United States, thereby placing herself in the way of its aggressive policy in Indochina and Southeast Asia...

## FOURTH BLUNDER: ARMED AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA

To make good his previous mistakes, Nixon made another: on April 30, he hurled US troops against Cambodia, under the pretext of attacking the "subversives" of Saigon, those patriotic forces and sympathizers of the "Viet Cong Pentagon." Within a few days, 30,000

ferment. From Hubert Humphrey to Edmund Muskie, including Clark Clifford, Averell Harriman, William Proxmire... most prominent politicians in the United States came out against the "Cambodian adventure." The Senate Foreign Affairs Committee summoned Nixon to testify about the "constitutional crisis" which he had triggered by ordering the armed aggression of a foreign country without consulting Congress, a course of action no president in the past 51 years had taken.

Even capitalist governments, like the Swedish, French... expressed disagreement or showed reserve. The only support given to the White House could lend no lustre to its military victory.

He has referred to a political solution reflecting the present relation of political forces, but he has been clinging to the Thieu-Ky-Khieu troika, with the wishful thinking that it will be reinvigorated.

The US aggressors have completely failed in their attempts to "break the Viet Cong's backbone," destroying the "nerve centre" of the NFL, but Nixon has been banking on another *Junction City*, this time on Cambodian territory.

The air war of destruction has come to a flop but Washington has been brandishing the threat of the resumption of the bombings of North Viet Nam.

Harriman wrote in *Look* (November 17, 1970) that Nixon neglected the negotiations while focussing his attention on military actions.

To blindly and obstinately indulge in power politics, to persevere in the search of a position of strength while he is in a position of weakness, such is the gravest error of Nixon. His bragging about US power frightens only cowards.

This new military adventure resulted in a further thinning out of US troops on a new war theatre where they are at a disadvantage while there were already in dire distress in South Viet Nam. Meanwhile, the armed resistance of the Khmer people was rapidly organized and strengthened, fiercely fighting off the enemy and dealing smarting blows at them. Within a few months, the liberated zone covered two-thirds of the Kingdom of Cambodia, with a half of its population. In the first three weeks of August, the Lon Nol troops had to retreat to battalions wiped out and to others so dangerously isolated and reduced to unitless for combat. The losses of the Americans and the Saigon puppets were severe. Up to June 30, 1970, 12,000 GIs and 18,000 Saigon mercenaries were put out of action, 50,000 Lon Nol-Matah troops killed, wounded, captured or dispersed, 2,400 vehicles destroyed, and 400 planes and helicopters downed. Until September 18, the losses of the American side reached the 110,000 mark, including 38,000 GIs and Saigon mercenaries. Today, the anti-imperialist forces in the country of 10 million people on the Cambodian soil itself. Within six months, the revolution has made a big step in Cambodia thanks to this miscalculation of Nixon. The Lon Nol-Matah clique has stalled in very deep waters both politically and militarily and economically. Its writ does not run beyond a few towns so much so that Western journalists and diplomats dub Lon Nol "mayor of Phnom Penh."

However, the character of the US aggression in Cambodia had not escaped American and world opinion right since Nixon's April 30 speech. A general outcry followed it: never was Washington policy so decried both in the United States and in the world. American opinion was in a column of puppet troops intercepted by Khmer patriotic forces on Phnom Penh-Sihanouk Road.

## FIFTH BLUNDER: STUBBORN SEARCH FOR A POSITION OF STRENGTH

**F**ROM the above errors, the "Vietnamization" of the war in South Viet Nam ... the

people, Nixon does not want that his country to be regarded as an "impotent colossus," but he does not realize that today no power can impose its rule on the peoples of the world.

## News from Cambodia

THE Khmer National Liberation Armed Forces proved to be highly successful in the period from November 8 to 12 in Snoul sector (Kratie province) and a section of Road No.7 linking Phnom Penh to Kompong Cham.

On November 8 in the vicinity of Snoul city (170km east-northeast of Phnom Penh) damaged by US bombardments, the 52nd Battalion of the Lao Rangers in action in Cambodia since October 23 was decimated after less than one hour's fighting. The Khmer patriots put 300 mercenaries out of action and seized two camps of the enemy battalion.

## In 5 Days, 1,500 Enemy Casualties in 2 Provinces Northeast of Phnom Penh

On November 9 they wiped out the 52nd Lon Nol Battalion at Treung, an important cross-roads on Road No.7, 14km northwest of Kompong Cham, inflicting 500 adverse casualties, capturing a lot of weapons and grounding a chopper. Enemy reinforcements from Phnom Penh were also intercepted with heavy losses. On the night of November 9, Lon Nol units stationed at Kompong Cham airfield came under a patriots' assault in which the enemy toll was 200 men.

From Nov. 8 to 12 other actions were mounted by the patriots in Prey Totung area (14km west of Treung), Peam Chai Kang (14km southwest of Treung), as well as in Teing Kauk on Road No.6 where an outfit of Lon Nol had been down for over two months. In total, enemy losses in Kompong Cham province from November 9 to 12 ran to 1,200 including a battalion and 6 companies written off.



Mass rally supporting the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

## Changes in Kompong Tbmar

**F**ROM town we proceeded to Kompong Tbmar ("Thmar" in Cambodian means "stone what") on a moonlit night. It was so dim that we could hardly see the dark outlines of the coconut and the that not trees (sugar palms) with their hanging leaves and the dismal silhouette of broken embers.

The owners of the destroyed houses had moved to the village a good distance away from the highway. A few houses remained standing and their walls were painted with the bullet holes, and most of their tiles gone or broken. From their way home, two others were blown away or hacked to pieces by bombs and shells. A few of them still lay there like impaled arms fallen by trigger-soldiers. Never had the inhabitants of Kompong Tbmar seen such a bloody carnage.

The raid was a severe trial for the population of the town and the whole village of Tbmar. The people's power led by the National United Front of Kampuchea had been hardly one month in existence when it occurred. But the members of the village committee, who though to the patriots who lack modern transportation means. In these five months, the LPDAF put out of action over 7,000 enemy troops, seized or destroyed over 4,000 fire-arms, 78 radio sets and 73 vehicles, downed 73 planes and helicopters, sank 16 military vessels and blew up 2 strategic bridges and a radar station.

Speaking of the significance of these gains, the communiqué underlined the following points:

The LPDAF continued to hold the initiative of attack, pushed up guerrilla warfare and political actions in enemy-controlled areas, hammered at the adverse forces and inflicted on them heavy losses (particularly the US "special forces") and worsened the enemy's defensive;

The free areas were consolidated in every respect and formed a vast stretch extending from the north to the south of the country, in which the welfare of the people was improved;

The LPDAF were strengthened in their build-up and equipment, in morale and political consciousness, as well as in technique and fighting tactics;

The enemy not only suffered setbacks on the battlefield, but was more and more politically isolated and lost another a head.

The concrete bridge was still standing across the roadsides. The village was a complete ruin and a whole row of dwellings adjacent to it had been blotted out. The planks of the wooden bridge from the asphalted road to the houses

were cut down on

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the success in this rainy season have paved the way for greater ones in the dry season which has just started.

They were possible thanks to the close unity and solidarity of the three brother peoples of Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam.

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VIET NAM COURIER

## \* Lao Patriotic Front and Alliance Committee Meet in Conference

THE Lao Patriotic Front Central Committee Permanent Bureau and the Lao Patriotic Neutralist Forces Alliance Committee Permanent Bureau have recently met in a bipartite conference presided over by Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the LPFC, KPL Press Agency reported.

The participants discussed measures to step up the Lao People's resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, and closely co-ordinated actions with the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples. They held that owing to the US imperialists' persistence in their intervention and aggression against Laos and in their refusal to end their bombardments on Lao territory so that the Lao parties concerned could favourably meet, the Lao problem had been so far stalemate.

The gathering wholeheartedly and expressed high appreciation of Prince Souphanouvong's decision to go to Vietnam. Sihanouk was his special envoy, for preparations for the Khanh-Khieu meeting between two princes' plenipotentiaries there. It also was of the opinion that should Prince Souvanna Phouma get rid of the American imperialists' and the extremists' pressure and seriously respond to the efforts exerted by the LPF, the forthcoming meeting of two princes' representatives would be fruitful.

## \* LPDAF Wiped Out 7,000 Enemy Troops and Downed 73 Aircraft during the Rainy Season

IN the last rainy season the patriotic forces won important successes against the US and its lackeys, said a communiqué released on November 11 by the High Command of the Lao People's Liberation Armed Forces.

From June to October, the US aggressors stepped up the special war in Laos in an attempt to consolidate their aggressive policy. This was part of Washington's policy in Indochina together with "Vietnamization" in South Viet Nam and intensification of US armed aggression in Cambodia.

In Laos, the enemy strove hard to reinforce the puppet army. Part of Vientiane regular troops was shifted to Tbmar, where the US armed forces directly commanded by US officers. Major TBAR armoured unit, Sihanouk puppet commando units were thrown into the war in Laos. Many large-scale operations were launched against the liberated zone. The heaviest ever bombings were carried out by US fighter-bombers and B-52s which dropped up to 5,000 tons of explosive a day.

But the Lao armed forces and people achieved significant results in the rainy season, mainly due to the patriots who lack modern transportation means. In these five months, the LPDAF put out of action over 7,000 enemy troops, seized or destroyed over 4,000 fire-arms, 78 radio sets and 73 vehicles, downed 73 planes and helicopters, sank 16 military vessels and blew up 2 strategic bridges and a radar station.

Speaking of the significance of these gains, the communiqué underlined the following points:

The LPDAF continued to hold the initiative of attack, pushed up guerrilla warfare and political actions in enemy-controlled areas, hammered at the adverse forces and inflicted on them heavy losses (particularly the US "special forces") and worsened the enemy's defensive;

The free areas were consolidated in every respect and formed a vast stretch extending from the north to the south of the country, in which the welfare of the people was improved;

The LPDAF were strengthened in their build-up and equipment, in morale and political consciousness, as well as in technique and fighting tactics;

The enemy not only suffered setbacks on the battlefield, but was more and more politically isolated and lost another a head.

The successes in this rainy season have paved the way for greater ones in the dry season which has just started.

They were possible thanks to the close unity and solidarity of the three brother peoples of Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam.

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VIET NAM COURIER

## STAGES AND PROBLEMS...

(Continued from page 3)

productivity of social labour. Of recent date, this branch has rapidly occupied a primary position. Consider the key role it has assumed since it began to show its action felt in the renovation of the whole of the national economy, chiefly agriculture. Though still weak by the standards of industrialized countries, it has made great progress.

**Electricity** made big strides till 1960. From 1960 onward, new thermo-electric stations were built in implementation of the slogan "electricity must take a step ahead" in order to ensure for the national economy a powerful and constant development: in five years the output of electricity increased 25 per cent against 80.4 per cent for that of total industrial output and 141.5 per cent for that of the output of Group A. Besides, it tends to serve production rather than to meet the needs of the people. Thus, in 1965, the former and 12.8 per cent for the latter in 1965, as against 78.3 per cent and 21.7 per cent in 1960.

**Metallurgy**, a budding branch, built during the first 5-year plan (1961-1965), produced its first melt of iron in 1964 and would have produced its first batch of steel in 1965 were it not for the US war of aggression.

In five years, from 1960 to 1965, coal rose by 61.7 per cent, cement

This task has required ample means, manpower first in the years 1955-1957, the techniques and equipment, chiefly since 1960 when it was possible for industry to be gradually geared to the service of agriculture.

It is safe to say that to some extent the advance made by agricultural production has been dependent on the increase of industrial supplies.

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## Changes...

(Continued from page 6)

None of their movements escaped the keen eyes of the young and resourceful guerrillas.

The raiders withdrew to the south. Many of them, with bandaged wounds on their bodies, could not bring themselves to part with the clothes, guns, pikes, radio sets, watches, jewelry and money they had looted from the population. They left behind the acrid smell of burnt wood and the stench of spoiled food.

The patriots, with broken bricks and tiles. Their house with close-cropped hair and dressed in black, sat near him. But this was not their home. The college building had taken so much damage and work had been required to ashes by the Lon Nol troops. H.'s look hardened as he retold the fight against the enemy. He cast a casual glance in the direction of the concrete bridge half-hidden by a broken wall.

We met H. in a small house littered with broken bricks and tiles. His wife, with close-cropped hair and dressed in black, sat near him. But this was not their home. The college building had taken so much damage and work had been required to ashes by the Lon Nol troops. H.'s look hardened as he retold the fight against the enemy. He cast a casual glance in the direction of the concrete bridge half-hidden by a broken wall and said:

"There, it's there!"

It was there that he had got a lieutenant of the Lon Nol army although he knew he was risking his own life firing from where he was.

"I had seen them opening up our unarmed fellow-countrymen demonstrating at Taing Krasang. At that time we were poor but things are different now. We must make them pay for their brutality."

The guerrilla team of Kompong Tbmar has grown by leaps and bounds since the enemy operation. Some of its members joined the regional Liberation Army, others the district regional forces. Those who are staying behind a named patrol duty

mount guard at the vital points ready to hit back if the enemy dare show their faces again.

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## The Nam Ky Uprising...

(Continued from page 2)

Key uprising, have successfully resisted the French colonialists and then the US imperialists and their lackeys.

Today, on the soil formerly red with the blood of martyrs, the fighters of the Nam Ky uprising, people from all walks of life are continuing to make sacrifices in defence of the "Iron Fort of the Fatherland." The indomitable spirit of these fighters have forged millions of heroic youths into staunch liberation arymen and outstanding combatants credited with signal exploits.

In commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Nam Ky Uprising, the South Vietnamese people, small and giant, on their native land and, with stronger confidence and determination, are marching forward under the NLF banner to defend revolutionary power at all costs. They are deeply aware that they cannot live in peace and happiness unless they completely defeat the US aggressors, overthrow the reactionary administration — an agent of US imperialism — achieve independence and liberate the country.

packs in it. These are mine, but these belong to someone else. I give them back to the Committee."

A new life, a new code of morality has been established in the light brought by the revolution. Under the leadership of the NLF, the Committee is requested to hand over to the Committee things that find which are not theirs to be returned to their owners, including cups and basins, like "Kamada" (Committee) and "Prothien" (President). The "Kamada" called upon the townspeople to sell their goods to the Liberation Army at reasonable prices and not to overcharge the people. The "Kamada" has also provisionally distributed lands of the traitors to the revolutionaries so that they may grow their rice crop while it is still the season. It also allotted 20 tons of paddy as relief food and seeds and gave allowances to the hardest workers. By the end of the year, the townspeople had suffered losses at the hands of Lon Nol men. Those houses whose owners have not returned have been sealed and carefully looked after.

The former Khmer official of the former village council has become the seat of the village committee of the FUNK. Scores of officers and men of the Lon Nol army, as well as those of the neighbourhood, have come there to surrender their arms and disks for the front's certificates which would allow them to turn over a new leaf. The former Khmer official has also given the site of send-offs for many young men joining the Liberation Army or taking up resistance jobs elsewhere. It was the place where the population deposited their National Liberation Arymen — those who had substantially contributed to the awakening of Kompong Tbmar.

H. NAM  
(Khmer News Agency)

VIET NAM COURIER

## Military Operations

### "SPECIAL PACIFICATION" FOILED BY GUERRILLAS AND REGIONAL TROOPS

**G**IAI PHONG Press Agency reported that from late October to mid-November, the enemy devoted great efforts to "pacify" the Mekong Delta (a great source of human and material resources in South Viet Nam) as well as the flood-stricken areas north of South Viet Nam. The guerrillas and regional troops were credited with great achievements in the protection of the population and routing the enemy.

#### MEKONG DELTA

**I**N *Chau Doc* province, 4 puppet battalions of Infantry Divisions 9 and 21 swept the Mount *Co To* area, about 100km west-southwest of Saigon. From November 5 to 8, many units were assailed in their camps while others were intercepted in their searches. At least one hundred puppet troops were put out of action in these four days.

Farther south, in *Bach Gi* province, PLAF men harassed the enemy defence line along *Xeo Ro* canal, on the coast of Thailand Gulf. Battalion 4, Regiment 31, puppet Infantry Division 21, coming to rescue this sector, was intercepted on November 1 and took about one hundred casualties.

The guerrillas and regional forces also hammered at the enemy in other sectors: at *Ben Thanh*, *Ben Tre* province, 10 puppet troops were wiped out on the night of Nov 1; at *An Nh*, *Long An* province, two platoons of Infantry Division 25 were knocked out respectively on October 23 and 27.

#### FIRST STRATEGIC AREA

**P**LAF men fought four battles in *Hue* region. On November 4, 20km north of the city, 19 GIs were blown up by mine on the banks of the *Bor* river. The following days, a US platoon air-dropped on a locality 40km northwest of *Hue*, was written off the muster-roll. On November 9, at 35km northwest of *Hue*, a US unit was intercepted. A platoon was wiped out, other units were hotly pursued during their retreat and 50 GIs put out of action.

On November 13, a US company of Airmobile Division 10, air-dropped on Hill 360, 17km southwest of the city, was immediately intercepted and suffered 50 casualties at nightfall.

In *Da Nang* area, from October 30 to November 5, 150 GIs were killed or wounded, and 3 planes and choppers downed by guerrillas in *Quy Son* and *Tien Phuoc* districts.

In *Quang Ngai* province, one of the areas the hardest hit by the October typhoon, 30 GIs were killed during the first three days of November when a US unit was raiding a village in *Ma Due* district. On similar occasions 11 other GIs were knocked out at *Du Chanh* village.

**O**n October 31, nearly one hundred representatives of such organizations as

"Popular Front for Peace," "Women's Movement for the Right to Live," "Committee for Improvement of the Prison Regime in South Viet Nam," "Committee for the People's Right to Live," "Students' General Association" and well-known personalities, intellectuals, business and industrialists, held in Saigon a meeting in which they demanded withdrawal of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, formation of a genuinely representative government and re-establishment of peace in South Viet Nam. This meeting marked a turning point in the struggle of various strata of the urban population in South Viet Nam.

With dollars and bayonets, the US imperialists have imposed on the South Vietnamese people a war they themselves have kindled. As it drags on, the artificial boom has not been able to mitigate the agonies and humiliations

of the people. The school girl arrested by the Saigon authorities, revealed that four mates of hers, Que Huong, Bich Lien, Tuyet Nga, and Mai, had been put to the third degree: they were stripped of all clothes, hung to the ceiling, made to drink soapy water and given electric shocks on their breasts. Que Huong had a leg broken.

Samples of this violence were the armed attacks on the *Viet Nam Quoc Tu* pagoda on the night of May 4, 1970 and the police brutalities against students and pupils on August 30, 1970. Over 80,000 people were apprehended during the campaign "For the People" from September 15 to October 28 in Saigon, in which the people were arbitrarily arrested, tortured, looted and terrorized. Now detained in jail are Truong Dinh Dzu, runner-up in the presidential race against Thieu, "Representative" Tran Ngoc Chau, accused of "intelligence with the Viet Cong," students Huynh Tan Mam,

#### Mass Action in Enemy-Controlled Areas

### The Ground Is Burning under the US Aggressors and Their Agents

iations of the South Vietnamese. Death and destruction have caused an economic and social crisis, hybridization of the national culture and instability and misery for the people.

From 1963 to 1969, the cost of living rose by 307 per cent in Saigon. Since the beginning of this year, market prices have gone up from 30 to 60 per cent (the Saigon paper *Dai Dan Tac*, Oct. 11, 1970). Most particularly, 24 hours after the devaluation of the piastre, the prices of many commodities shot up. From 3,000 piastres per 100kg bag, rice, the staple food of the Vietnamese, has soared to 6,000 piastres while a puppet soldier gets 4,200 piastres per month, a school mistress over 4,000 piastres, and a policeman over 3,000 piastres. While the Saigon piastre is depreciated and prices are skyrocketing, the 20 per cent pay rise for the puppet soldiers and civil servants is understandably insignificant.

The inhabitants in enemy-held areas are legitimately exasperated because the only means resorted to by the Saigon puppet authorities has been repression. Since early March 1970, scenes of policemen hurling tear grenades at, or bludgeoning, students, pupils, Buddhists, pressmen, puppet war invalids have become common occurrences. A harsh penitentiary regime prevails in various prisons and concentration camps in Saigon, Poulo Condor, Phu Quoc, where prisoners are put to the most inhuman tortures. These cruelties have been many times denounced by public opinion. Kieu Mong Thu, a female "MP," said of the torture inflicted on the students, male and female, arrested in March 1970 as follows: "The hall-marks left by such horrors as application of electricity to the breasts, driving of pins into the fingers and knees of pris-

Le Van Nuoi, Tran Hoai, protesters against Thieu's repression, and hundreds of other people, including Thich Thien Minh who did not bow to Thieu and the reactionary Buddhist priest; a dozen bronzes were killed. For speaking the truth, the Saigon press has been persecuted. From March 13 to November 9, 225 seizures and fines were ordered against newspapers. Even the war invalids, those who have risked their lives for the Thieu-Ky-Khiem regime, have been victimized for demanding better living conditions. As South Viet Nam has gone through 29 years of war, since the Allies made war against Japan in Iwo Jima, our people now long for peace. They are "fed up" with the war which is being "Vietnamized" by the US, because more than any other else, they understand that this is only a US policy aiming at "changing the complexion of the corpses." This war is not waged by them and for them. They are all the more indignant at the Americans who have kindled it and at the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta who are hanging on to the aggressors to drag it. That is why more and more strongly object to the presence of the US expeditionary forces and the mercenary troops of US satellite countries in South Viet Nam and the presence of Thieu-Ky-Khiem in the saddle of the "Republic of Viet Nam," the underlying cause of all their miseries.

The truth must out however. The goal of struggle of the progressive and patriotic elements in the South, rallied under the banner of the NFL and other revolutionary organizations, has become the watchword of people living in the enemy's grip. Such bogeys as "communist hands," "communist masterminded elements" can intimidate nobody. The enemy is sitting on an active volcano.



Secondary school girls versus Saigon police.